

Message Text

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21

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AGR-20 DOTE-00 TRSE-00 L-03

TAR-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01

USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 H-03 DRC-01 /100 W

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R 262106Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3845

INFO AMCONSUL CALGARY

AMCONSUL MONTREAL

AMCONSUL QUEBEC

AMCONSUL WINNIPEG

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PASS DOT CHAIRMAN INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION
AND AGRICULTURE (FAS POERSTAL)

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, CA

SUBJECT: TRUCKING: QUEBEC AND ALBERTA

SITUATIONS--BUS QUESTION ALSO ARISING

REF: OTTAWA 1594, MONTREAL 0975 A-96, A-92, A-91; CALGARY
A-71, A-65.

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. ACTION BY QUEBEC TRANSPORT AUTHORITIES
(MONTREAL 0975) BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN INFLUENCED BY
DISCUSSIONS INITIATED BY CANADIAN TRUCKING ASSOCIATION
(CTA). CTA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, HOWEVER, HAS ADVISED OF STRONG
ANGER ON PART OF MONTREAL BUS COMPANY RE RECENT ICC
DENIAL OF OPERATING RIGHTS WHICH MAY COMPLICATE US-
QUEBEC TRUCKING SITUATION. ALSO, HE CONTINUES CONCERNED
OVER POSSIBILITY FEDERAL ROLE IN TRUCKING REGULATION
AS EMBODIED IN ALBERTA-SASKATCHEWAN APPROACH TO
CANADIAN TRANSPORT COMMISSION (CTC) ATTEND MEETING
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WITH ICC AT SAN FRANCISCO. END SUMMARY.

2. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CTA KENNETH MACLAREN ADVISED TCO OF HIS DISCUSSIONS JUNE 13 WITH QUEBEC TRUCKING ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT ARCHAMBAULT WHO AGREED USE GOOD OFFICES WITH PROVINCIAL TRANSPORT AUTHORITIES TO SECURE BETTER ARRANGEMENT FOR US PRODUCE CARRIERS. MACLAREN AND ARCHAMBAULT'S RATIONALIZATION FOR DOING THIS WAS A FEAR THAT USG WOULD TAKE UP CAUSE OF US TRUCKERS WITH GOC AT FEDERAL LEVEL AND IN CONTEXT MAJOR REVISIONS CANADIAN TRANSPORT POLICY UNDERWAY SUCH AN INTERVENTION COULD SERVE TO TRIGGER GREATER FEDERAL INVOLVEMENT IN TRUCKING. CTA AND ITS PROVINCIAL ASSOCIATION MEMBERS ARE STRONGLY OPPOSED TO FEDERAL ROLE. EMBASSY SUGGESTS POSSIBILITY QUEBEC DECISION REPORTED MONTREAL 0975 RESULTED FROM THAT INTERVENTION.

3. MACLAREN, ON JUNE 25, CALLED ATTENTION TO ANGER ON PART OF MURRAY HILL MOTOR COACH SERVICE OF MONTREAL WHICH HAS BEEN DENIED OPERATING RIGHTS TO NEW YORK BY RECENT ICC DECISION AFTER MAJOR EFFORT MAKE ITS CASE OVER GREYHOUND OPPOSITION. ACCORDING TO MACLAREN, MURRAY HILL OFFICERS ARE VERY CLOSE TO PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU AND PROBABLY ALSO HAVE SIGNIFICANT INFLUENCE WITH QUEBEC LIBERAL GOVERNMENT AND ITS TRANSPORT AGENCIES. THUS THERE IS, HE SUGGESTED, A POSSIBILITY OF FALL OUT WITH RESPECT TO QUEBEC TREATMENT OF US TRUCKING. IN SEPARATE CONVERSATION, FULFORD (DIRECTOR, TRANSPORT, COMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY DIVISION, EXTAFF) TOLD TCO THAT BUS COMPANY OFFICIALS HAD RECENTLY MADE REPRESENTATIONS REGARDING ICC DENIAL AN REQUESTED GOC ACTION. HE WAS AWAITING A WRITTEN SUBMISSION FROM CARRIER BEFORE CONSIDERING WHAT ACTION MIGHT BE APPROPRIATE. HOWEVER, HIS IMPRESSION IS THAT US CARRIERS PROVIDE MUCH MORE TRANS-BORDER SERVICES THAN DO CANADIAN CARRIERS AND THAT TOTAL SITUATION IS INEQUITABLE. A STUDY OF THIS SITUATION WILL BE MADE, FULFORD ADDED, AND THERE MAY BE AN ATTEMPT TO GET A HANDLE ON IT WITHIN FRAMEWORK OF EMERGING NEW FEDERAL TRANSPORT POLICY.

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4. MACLAREN CONFIRMED TCO'S UNDERSTANDING THAT ICC HAD RESPONDED TO ALBERTA'S INITIATIVES BY INVITING PROVINCIAL OFFICIALS TO A MEETING THIS WEEK WITH ICC'S WESTERN FIELD DIRECTORS AT SAN FRANCISCO. HE ADDED THAT SASKATCHEWAN, WHICH IS DEVELOPING CONCERNS SIMILAR TO THOSE OF ALBERTA, WAS ADVISED OF THIS MEETING BY ALBERTA AND IS GOING TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO IT. ALBERTA HAS ALSO ASKED CTC TO SEND A REPRESENTATIVE

TO SAN FRANCISCO TO EXPLAIN CANADIAN LEGAL SYSTEM AS IT
RELATES TO TRUCKING AND MORE SPECIFICALLY TO EXPLAIN
FROM VIEWPOINT OF CANADIAN FEDERAL GOVERNMENT THAT
PROVINCES HAVE FULL JURISDICTION IN THIS AREA.
ACCORDING TO MACLAREN, THIS REQUEST CREATES PROBLEM
FOR CTC WHICH FEELS IT CANNOT ACCEDE WITHOUT
PERMISSION OF MOT AND EXTAF AND, FOR BUREAUCRATIC
REASONS, IS RELUCTANT TO INVOLVE THESE AGENCIES IN
TRUCKING QUESTIONS AT THIS TIME. CTA IS VERY MUCH
OPPOSED TO CTC ACCEDING TO ALBERTA REQUEST IN LINE
WITH ITS GENERAL OPPOSITION TO A FEDERAL ROLE IN
TRUCKING REGULATION.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE
RECEIVING A REPORT ON SAN FRANCISCO MEETING BETWEEN
ICC AND CANADIANS AND COPY OF ICC DECISION IN MURRAY
HILL CASE.
PORTER

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION.

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Message Attributes

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